

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHIMES

Sharing Christ's Love

October 2018

Volume 57, Issue 10

www.firstgeneseo.org

WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

“Growth in Giving Gatherings”

The Stewardship Ministry team invites all members and friends of the congregation to participate in a *Growth in Giving Gathering*. These gatherings will be a chance for us to get together in small groups, share our faith with one another, study God’s word, and enjoy a time of fellowship. Please sign up for one of the gatherings at the Welcome Center or by visiting www.firstgeneseo.org and clicking on the link on the homepage.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saturday, October 6	4:00 p.m.	FLC/Grace Place
Sunday, October 7	10:00 a.m.	FLC/ Grace Place
*Sunday, October 7	11:15 a.m.	FLC/ Grace Place
Thursday, October 11	7:30 p.m.	Home of Lendol & Anne Calder
*Saturday, October 13	10:30 a.m.	Home of Matt & Laura Kamprath
*Sunday, October 14	2:00 p.m.	Home of Mark & Darla Anderson
*Sunday, October 14	6:00 p.m.	Home of Phil & Melinda Wildermuth
Sunday, October 14	7:00 p.m.	Home of Bill & Theresa Nelson

** indicates that this Gathering will include activities for young children*

Clergy and Staff Appreciation Month!

October is Clergy Appreciation Month. It’s a special time to recognize and honor your pastors for all they do and all that they are. Betty Mulloy writes in her article *Clergy Appreciation: Honoring the Person and the Call*, “A pastor’s job is as difficult as it is important. As our shepherds, teachers, mentors and God’s chosen servants, pastors exercise great love for the people of their congregation. But they also must contend with their own families, personal lives, and finite resources of time, energy, and finances.”

“Every day, your pastor is at work building your community of faith. You, too, have a role to play in this important work. And showing your gratitude to the pastor is a great place to start. Why not begin by simply saying thank you to your pastor - creatively, tangibly, actively, sincerely. Then, keep the *gratitude attitude* going throughout the year. It’s the kind of gift that will mean more than you could ever imagine.” Here at First Lutheran we extend this appreciation to all those who dedicate their professions, full and part-time, to the day-to-day operations of our church home. Your Stewardship Ministry Team invites you to join us in honoring and thanking all our staff this month and throughout the year!

Generous Hearts

As the Fall approaches and the harvests have begun, we move into a time of thinking and talking about stewardship. Now, I already know what you are all thinking... they are going to start asking for more money. However, this is not the case (*at least not today*). This congregation is already generous financially toward God's mission in this place and in our wider world. Secondly, this congregation gives of their time and talents also generously. Our primary concern is not for more money (*however nice that would be*), but for us to reflect on how generous God is and our response to God's generosity. Simply put, how we live, act, and give is intimately connected to our faith.

When Laura and I were first married we struggled after seminary to find our first call. It was at the height of the recession and not many pastors were retiring resulting in very few open calls and while we waited, we struggled financially. When we finally received the call to go to southern Illinois we were so thankful for the opportunity to serve God in a new place. I didn't know much about southern Illinois, and we were both completely new to the culture and the people.

Our first Sunday was in the middle of Advent and we were planning on having both of our parents come to the parsonage and have Christmas dinner. It was that first time of hosting both our parents in our new place and it was a lot of work to get this all done while starting our new calls.

Now, in the area where we lived there was a huge community of Amish people who had this great little store out in the country.

Everyone told us to go there for the best meats and cheeses, and all sorts of groceries to help with the dinner, and so we went there. When we came to the register to buy all of this food, there was only one problem, they didn't take credit cards and we hadn't been paid yet. Laura and I looked at each other thinking, "*what are we going to do?*" so we said to them that we didn't have any money and we were ashamed. The woman at the register quickly replied, "*Oh, not a problem, that's OK, you pay us when you're able. Christmas is coming.*" Immediately, we thanked her, and walked out of there amazed at what had happened. It was truly a God moment for both of us. Her generosity and kindness is something that we will never forget, because it wasn't what we were expecting, it was a surprise gift!

God is always giving. We always think there isn't enough, but we are surprised by unexpected gifts of kindness. Our response is gratefulness.

Coming up in October there will be eight *Growth in Giving Gatherings* that will take place in this congregation from a variety of host families. At each small group gathering there will include a Bible Study and reflection on faith and giving. Our hope is that you have the courage to come to one of these gatherings as we reflect on our faith and our response to God's generosity to us.

*In Christ,
Pastor Matt*

October 6 & 7, 2018

Pentecost 20/Blessing of the Harvest

This weekend's texts include Genesis 2:18-24, Psalm 8, Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 and Mark 10:2:16.

October 13 & 14, 2018

Pentecost 21

This weekend's texts include Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Psalm 90:12-17, Hebrews 4:12-16, and Mark 10:17-31.

October 20 & 21, 2018

Pentecost 22/World Hunger Weekend

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 53:4-12, Psalm 91:9-16, Hebrews 5:1-10 and Mark 10:35-45.

October 27 & 28, 2018

Reformation Sunday

This weekend's texts include Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28 and John 8:31-36.

Blessing of the Harvest

October 6 & 7, 2018

With the upcoming harvest season, First Lutheran will be praying for the safety of all farmers, and for a bountiful harvest. Farmers are invited to bring a symbol of their harvest to be blessed during the worship services on October 6 & 7.

Rite of Confirmation

October 28, 2018

Congratulations to our Confirmation Class of 2018! Please join us at the Contemporary Worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday, October 28, as these young people celebrate their journey in faith as Christians.

Fynnigan Greene

William Jordan Haser

Autumn Holmstrom

FIRST WORSHIP & MUSIC



Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Donald J. Trump and Governor Bruce Rauner. For all who work for peace and justice. For those serving our country in the military, especially Raul Falcon, Griffin Fleming, Josh Fleming, Jakob Gradert, Brian Hanshaw (*Jan & Steve Weber's son-in-law*), Connor Luxmore, Taylor McKean, Jessica Ruggles, Christopher Schwake, Christopher Unrath, Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders.

Church: For our bishops: Rev. Elizabeth Eaton and Rev. Jeff Clements. For our partners in ministry: Pastor Daniel Meyan and the people of Osupuko Parish in Tanzania, Rev. Raja Socrates, Bishop of the Arcot Lutheran Synod, India. For missionaries who share the Gospel around the world, especially Abby Larson, Young Adults in Global Mission. For Catherine Nelson, seminary student. For Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. For our pastors, parish staff, Preschool staff and Church Council (names listed on pg. 10).

Health and Wellbeing: Johnny _____ (*Joan Elden's brother*), Julie _____ (*John & Joan Elden's daughter*), Lorece Arnett, Chris Bergren, Jenny Brooks (*Jami Haser's friend*), Kathy Cross (*Janet Larson's friend*), Judy DeBoever, Julie F. (*Janet Larson's friend*), Mindy Gemberling (*Jodi Barnhart's cousin*), Darla Johns (*Maurice & Brenda Nelson's neighbor*), Evelyn Kline, Dan Mille (*Loretta Baze's son*), Julie N. (*Janet Larson's friend*), Peggy Schram (*Doris Swanson's daughter*), Wendy Thompson (*Linda Mullin's daughter*) and Don Tomlinson (*Shirley Clark's brother*).

Joys: On the marriages of Devin & Megan Olson and Kaitlyn & Colton Boyles. Baptism of Calvin Royce Rexroth, son of Craig & Michelle Rexroth. We welcomed the following new members to the congregation: *Diana Baca & Storm Baca; Larry & Lorrie Lord; and Dustin & Lauren, Connor, Gabe, and Hadley Minnaert*. We are excited that our family at First is growing! Scott Sprau is home from the hospital and doing very well. Thank you for your prayers. For all the prayers for Reg _____, nephew of Laura Wayne. He is doing well. David Peterson is home and improving daily.

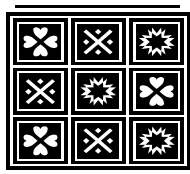
Thanksgiving: For the Caring Conversations group.

Sorrows: On the death of Norman Juliot, brother of Pastor Virgil Juliot.

If you wish to submit a prayer request, please contact the church office at 944-3196 or by e-mail prayer@firstgeneseo.org. If you or a member of your family have a medical procedure planned or are admitted to the hospital, please call the church office. In the event of an after-hours emergency please contact Pastor Matt at 703-505-9517.

FIRST PRAYER

FIRST MINISTRIES



Lutheran World Relief

Quilt Dedication

Come and admire the beautiful quilts on October 13 & 14. The Cover Girls share the Lutheran World Relief Mission: *Affirming God's love for all people, we work with Lutherans around the world to end poverty, injustice, and human suffering.* These lovely quilts will be displayed and blessed during the services to comfort those in need around the world. After worship, please check out the Kiosk in the Fellowship Room to view other LWR projects!

- **Help is needed** to pack Lutheran World Relief items on Monday, October 15 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. Come and join us!

Mark your calendars for Jul Gott 2018!

Baked Goods and Silent Auction sale will be held on Saturday, December 1 from 9 a.m. - noon. We are looking for all types of crafters for the silent auction: *quilter, candlemaker, wood worker, etc.* Additionally, we are also looking for event tickets, Cabin stay, photography packages and more for donations. All proceeds from Jul Gott go towards World Hunger, Backpack Blessings and the Food Pantry.

→ *NEW this year* to Jul Gott will be a Gingerbread house contest. Look for more information in next months Chimes and how YOU can be involved!

This is your opportunity to help your community. Let's come together and get creative!



Theology on Tap

Come and join Pastor Matt on Tuesday, October 9 & 16 at 7 p.m. at Geneseo Brewing Company. Together we will conclude our Bible study on the Prophets.

- Starting in November 6 we will begin a book study of Richard Rohr's book, *Falling Upward*. Everyone is welcome!

Music and Movement returns!

Linda Schmidt will again be offering a music class for 2 ½-4 year old children. Classes will be on Tuesday mornings, from 11-11:30 a.m., from October 2 through November 6 featuring a variety of rhythmic and tonal activities. Every child who attends needs to bring a parent or grandparent. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center, or on the website.

Social Ministry Requests:

- *College Students*

Social ministry is looking to update our list of college students and their addresses for the 2018-2019 school year. Please leave the information at the church office.

- *Military Personnel*

Our current military personnel list needs updating. If you have a family member or know of a church member who is in the military, Social Ministry would like their current mailing address. Please leave it at the church office.

Outreach Ministry's Volunteer Recognition

Many members of this congregation give of their time, talents and treasure help people, projects and organizations outside the walls of First Lutheran. We notice and want them to know that their efforts are appreciated. Each month we will recognize a FLC individual or group of individuals that are doing "God's Work" in our community and beyond.

This month's recognition for spreading God's word through action in our community goes to Glen 'Captain Green' Anderson. Outside of his work with Bluebirds and natural habitats, Glen continues his passion for working with kids. After 32 years of teaching, coaching and school administration work, Glen found another opportunity. He is often seen on the high school football field on Friday nights, heard from above as the Girl's softball announcer or seen at high school wrestling meets. But often, it is when we *don't* see him that he the busiest...Glen organizes +/- 100 meals to feed the football team and coaches for all away games. He picks up the food, ices down the drinks and has the meal on the bus ready for the ride home after the game. Another 'thanks' goes to Glen for being one of God's truly faithful servants.

**FIRST
MINISTRIES**



GLEN ANDERSON

First Friends "Oktoberfest"

First Friends will gather on Thursday, October 11 at 11:30 a.m. for *Oktoberfest* with Brats & fixings. Stay and play some bingo after lunch! Cost is \$5 for fun and fellowship! Sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend. Friends are welcome!

Thank You!

Thank you to all those who helped with the *God's Work, Our Hands* roadside clean-up, and to the children and parents who did a great job cleaning the nursery toys and playground. Many hands made the job go quickly and it was fun! Also thanks to Thrivent for their supports for our project. Again, thanks.

—Social Ministry

Humanitarian Aid Requests for Another Child Foundation

Donations for humanitarian aid for Point of Hope community center and rural areas in Romania will be collected until Sunday, October 14. Please consider donating any of the following items:

- *Lice treatment kits*
- *Travel sized tubes of lotion*
- *Travel sized bottles of body wash*
- *Wash cloths for bathing*

I will be leaving on October 17 for Romania with Another Child Foundation to assist in distributing aid items, shoes, coats and clothing to rural areas. Prayers are greatly appreciated to support our mission work.

—Janet Larson

Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship Program

Christians are called to offer hospitality to strangers and foreigners. Our family has participated in the Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship program for many years and have been richly blessed. The interaction with people from other cultures has enriched our family in so many ways. International students attending Chicago area universities and colleges have an opportunity for a home-stay to experience a truly American cultural tradition. Guests arrive the evening of November 21 and return to Chicago midday November 25. Application forms and informational packets are available at the Resource Center.

—Jim & Janet Larson

FIRST FAITHTIME MINISTRIES

Children's Ministry: Faithtime (Wednesdays Afterschool)

All children Grades K-6

3:15-3:45 p.m. Check In, Snack, Opening
Activities in Fellowship Room

3:45-5:25 p.m. Message, Music, Motion &
Games Rotation

5:25-5:30 p.m. Closing in Sanctuary

5:30 p.m. Check Out in Sanctuary

- Faithtime children will be helping the Cover Girls, putting together school kits for the Lutheran World Relief on October 3.

Please Note: No Faithtime on October 31.

We encourage our FT kids to come to our Trunk or Treat event while Trick or Treating!

Faithtime Evening Meal

An evening meal is offered each week during Faithtime. The meal will be continuously served from 5:00 to 6:15 p.m. The cost is \$2 per child ages 3 through 11, \$4 for ages 12 through adult, or \$15 per family. Everyone is invited to make Faithtime your mealtime! Following is a listing of our October meals:

October 3	Breakfast
October 10	Pasta Bar
October 17	Tacos
October 24	Chicken/Mashed Potatoes
October 31	No Faithtime/No Meal



Youth Bells (4th-9th graders)

All 4th-9th grade youth are invited to give bells a try...We will meet on four Wednesdays in October (October 3, 10, 17 & 24) from 5:15-5:45 p.m. The group will play for 8:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, October 28 at 8:30 a.m. which is Reformation Sunday. No experience needed—all 4th-9th graders welcome!

Save the date!

Attention Kindergarten & 3rd grade parents: At weekend worship services on November 10 & 11 Kindergarteners will receive a Story Bible and 3rd graders will receive an NRSV Bible. The *Opening the Bible* class for 3rd graders will be Sunday, November 4 at 11 a.m.

Confirmation (7th & 8th graders)

Our year is off to a great start! We are using Luther's Small Catechism this fall to explore our faith. On the evening of October 24, the Confirmation students and high school youth group will be participating in Boo-4-Food, a service project to collect food items for the Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry. The students will divide up the town of Geneseo and knock on doors (*trick-or-treat style*), asking for food donations. If we come to your door, please be generous!

Here's our October schedule:

- **October 3** — *Apostles' Creed, Article 1*
- **October 10** — *Apostles' Creed, Article 2*
- **October 17** — *Apostles' Creed, Article 3*
- **October 24** — Boo-4-Food Service Project
- **October 31** — **No Confirmation** ~ *Happy Halloween!*

Youth Group

Come and join us as we continue our video series and learning about the importance of prayer. We will also be playing fun games! The Youth Room opens at 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. Sr. High youth are welcome to hang out until Youth Group starts.

Please Note: No Youth Group on Wednesday, October 31.

Upcoming Youth Opportunities!

Tanner's Orchard ~ On Sunday, October 7, Youth Group is invited to come apple picking and go to the pumpkin patch at Tanner's Orchard in Speer, IL. We will meet at the church at 12 p.m. and will get back around 4 p.m. Let Haylee Gustafson know if you are interested.

Boo-4-Food ~ On Wednesday, October 24 from 6-8 p.m., Confirmation and Sr. High youth are invited for a friendly competition between groups! The youth will be going door to door in town asking for canned goods for the Food Pantry. After collecting cans, the youth go against each other in a can castle building contest.

Adult Education Opportunities during Faithtime!

- **Bible Study-Book of Faith** — Join Pastor Mike Clark as he continues to lead a Bible study on the book of Hebrews from 6-7 p.m. in Grace Place. Here's the October schedule:

October 3	What Is Faith?	October 17	How Shall We Live?
October 10	No Bible Study	October 24	What If Faith Fails?

- **Caring Conversations** will continue through October from 6-7:30 p.m. in Room 5 on second floor. Here's the October study schedule:

October 3	Delete the Drama of the Day: <i>Hannah</i>
October 10	Forget the What-might-have-beens: <i>Anna</i>
October 17	Discover the Power of Wisdom and Courage Combined: <i>Jehosbeba</i>
October 24	Get Past the Resistance of Fear: <i>Abigail</i>

Our conversations are based on *Same Life, New Story* by Christian life-coach, Jan Silvius. New attendees are always welcome!

- **First Book Club** — Join us for discussion on the content of the book "*The Kitchen House*" and faith response to the author Kathleen Grissom on Wednesday, October 10 at 5:30 p.m. in Grace Place.

November's book title is *The First Phone Call from Heaven* written by Mitch Albom. One morning in the small town of Coldwater, Michigan, the phones start ringing. The voices say they are calling from heaven. Is it the greatest miracle ever? Or some cruel hoax? As news of these strange calls spreads, outsiders flock to Coldwater to be a part of it. At the same time, a disgraced pilot named Sully Harding returns to Coldwater from prison to discover his hometown gripped by "*miracle fever*." Even his young son carries a toy phone, hoping to hear from his mother in heaven. As the calls increase, and proof of an afterlife begins to surface, the town—and the world—transforms. Only Sully, convinced there is nothing beyond this sad life, digs into the phenomenon, determined to disprove it for his child and his own broken heart. Hurry and purchase your copy today and begin reading this beautifully rendered tale of faith and redemption that makes us think, feel and hope—and then doubt and then believe.

FIRST MINISTRIES



Trunk or Treat!

Do you love to hand out candy on Halloween? Would you like to stay warm while having fun passing out treats to children in our community? Then First Lutheran's Trunk or Treat event is for you! On Wednesday, October 31 from 4-7 p.m. you are invited to dress in costume (*if you'd like*), decorate a table in the Fellowship Room (*we can help you with that too!*), pass out candy and enjoy all the fun costumes and smiles! If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact Misty Slaymaker at slaymakerfamily@yahoo.com or 714-2838. You can also sign up in the Welcome Center.

- Another way to participate is by donating candy. Please bring your donations to the church and place them in the "pumpkin" container located in the Fellowship Room. We welcomed over 400 children and adults last year so donations are greatly appreciated!

Council Highlights from September 17, 2018

Pr. Reed Pedersen, of Augustana Lutheran Church, led a devotion to open the meeting. He represented the Synod and Bishop Clements and thanked First Lutheran for all we have done for the Church at large.

Action Items

- Passed a continuing resolution regarding a donation from a member framing how the money is to be used.
- Approved building usage agreement for Girl Scout Troops 1798 & 5212; professional development for Linda Schmidt (*already budgeted*); and Mission Endowment request for \$500 for Grow Ministries and two Social Ministry Benevolence requests: \$250 for World Hunger and \$615 for Henry County Sheriff's Office for a Drug Prevention Program.

Old Business

The Council discussed receiving input from the congregation on changing worship times due to reinstating Sunday School and adult

First Lutheran Preschool

On Monday, October 1 preschool will hold its annual Open House from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Our 4 year-old classes will be visiting the Fire Station. All of our preschool classes will have fun with Halloween activities and art. The 3 year-olds will have orange as their special color and triangles as their shape of the month. They will make a field collage with scarecrows and corn. The 4 year-olds will be collecting Autumn leaves, etc. to make a collage and they will be learning about Fire Safety Week. They will also be learning about evaporation for the letter E and making fat fish for the letter F.

education on Saturdays and Sundays. Town Hall Meetings will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 29 & 30 to hear from members. Information will be given out the prior weekend.

New Business

- Set the dates for the Annual Meetings: January 20th & 27th, 2019.
- Discussed possible plans for the Glen Anderson Memorial. Ray Bergles was directed to speak with the family.

Financial Report

General Fund Offering:

August actual	\$26,543
August budget	\$32,767
YTD actual	\$283,011
YTD budget	\$290,733

Net Income Over Expenses:

August actual	\$9,167 deficit
August budget	\$1,389 deficit
YTD actual	\$16,189 deficit
YTD budget	\$15,804 deficit

Food Pantry Collection

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting *sugar, pancake mix, muffin mix, refried beans, taco shells, toilet paper, garbage bags, freezer bags, sandwich bags and dryer sheets* to share with those in our community. Donations may be left in the basket by the church office.

Another way to help!

With Halloween coming up, our clients will be shopping at the Food Pantry for Halloween costumes for their children, as well as warm clothing for the chilly fall weather. If you have any clothing or household items you no longer need, you may donate them during business hours.

Women's Ministry

Cover Girls Quilting

Come and work with the "Cover Girls" on a variety of projects including tying quilts made of donated fabrics and assembling several care kits for Lutheran World Relief. You are welcome to come any time you can help on Wednesday, October 3 & 10 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. The need is great!

Women's Bible Study will be held on Wednesday, October 17 at 9 a.m. at the home of Janet Stees, 9136 N 1950 Ave, Geneseo. We will be using the Lutheran magazine, "Gather" for our study guide. All women are welcome to join us for this time of fellowship and Bible Study. Questions, call Carol Boyd at 944-2413.

Community Christmas Dinner

We are getting organized for the annual Community Christmas Dinner at First and welcome new participants. There will be an organizational meeting on Thursday, November 1 at 6:30 p.m. in Grace Place. The dinner will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Christmas Day. Mark your calendar!

Lutheran World Relief—Soap

Soap keeps hands clean, germs at bay and helps people present themselves with dignity. That is why bar soap is needed for LWR. Any brand or size in its original wrapping is accepted however bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) are highly preferred. Bar soap will be collected through October in the basket by the church office.

HHH Community Health Series

Upcoming Men's Topic: "Medical Updates"

The Men's Health Program will be held at Hammond-Henry Hospital in the first floor conference room on Wednesday, October 3 from 7 to 8 a.m. There is no cost for the program. Those attending may purchase breakfast in the hospital dining room.

Upcoming Women's Topic: "Pain Control"

The Women's Health Program luncheon will be at The Cellar on Thursday, October 25 from noon — 1 p.m. Cost of the luncheon is \$8 payable at the door.

Reservations for either of these programs may be made by calling Hammond-Henry Hospital at 944-9112 or email a response to hhhfound@hammondhenry.com by Tuesday prior to the program you wish to attend.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

114 E. Main Street
Geneseo, IL 61254-1566
309-944-3196
www.firstgeneseo.org
e-mail: first@firstgeneseo.org

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Laura Kamprath
lkamprath@firstgeneseo.org

Rev. Matt Kamprath
mkamprath@firstgeneseo.org

Linda Schmidt, Deacon
Director of Worship & Music
lschmidt@firstgeneseo.org

Mary Jo Brummet
Parish Administrator
mjbrummet@firstgeneseo.org

Haylee Gustafson
Director of Youth & Family Ministry
youth@firstgeneseo.org

Jennifer Johnson
Programs Meal Coordinator

Jim Luikart
Parish Accountant
jluikart@firstgeneseo.org

Charlene Daniels
Custodian
cdaniels@firstgeneseo.org

COUNCIL

Ray Bergles—*President*
Cathy Runty—*Vice-President*
Brian Hofer—*Secretary*
Rollin Setterdahl—*Treasurer*

Jodi Barnhart, Roger Bengtson,
Nancy Cassens, Gary Daniels,
Dawn Ebarb, Scott Fitzpatrick,
Johanna Hager, Peter Johnson,
Taylor Wildermuth

Meeting Schedule:

Cabinet — Monday, October 8
Ministries — Monday, October 8
Council — Monday, October 15

PRESCHOOL STAFF

Misty Slaymaker, *Director*
Mary Williamsen, Margi Ficken
preschool@firstgeneseo.org

**NEXT CHIMES DEADLINE:
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Wednesday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday
Office Closed
Closed for Lunch ~ Noon-1 p.m.

STAFF SCHEDULE

Rev. Laura Kamprath
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

Rev. Matt Kamprath
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Linda Schmidt, Deacon
Director of Worship & Music
Monday-Thursday

Mary Jo Brummet,
Parish Administrator
Monday-Thursday

Haylee Gustafson, *Director of Youth & Family Ministry*
Monday-Thursday